

REMARKS

Without acquiescing to the statements made in the Restriction Requirement dated July 10, 2003, Applicant hereby elects without traverse the claims of Group II, (claims 1-3, 8-12, 19-23 and 29-39), drawn to a stent having surface roughness, for prosecution in the instant application. Applicant has added new claims 40-44. Examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

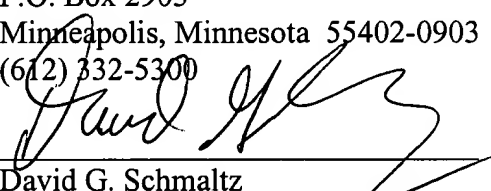
In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: _____

8/11/03



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